

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COLOMB 02567 121205Z

45

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 SSO-00 USSS-00

CCO-00 NSCE-00 DRC-01 /154 W
----- 085796

R 121130Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 134

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 2567

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CE

SUBJ: SRI LANKA REACTION TO ME WAR

1. PM BANDARANAIKE MADE OFFICIAL COMMENT ON MID-EAST WAR IN BRIEF STATEMENT ISSUED OCT 10. SHE NOTED GSL "GRAVELY CONCERNED AT RESUMPTION OF FIGHTING" AND PLACED FULL BLAME FOR WAR ON ISRAELI ACTIONS SINCE 1967. STATEMENT STRONGLY IMPLIED ARAB INITIATIVE IN CURRENT STRUGGLE AND EXPRESSED GSL UNDERSTANDING OF REASONS WHICH LED ARAB STATES "TO ADOPT THE COURSE THEY HAVE DONE." PM EXPRESSED "SYMPATHY AND SOLIDARITY" WITH ARABS AND REITERATED LONGSTANDING CALL ON ISRAEL TO WITHDRAW FROM TERRITORY SEIZED IN 1967.

2. CAREFULLY WORDED STATEMENT ISSUED AFTER ALMOST WEEK OF FIGHTING APPEARS LITTLE MORE THAN GETTING SRI LANKA ON RECORD OF SUPPORT FOR ARABLS, BUT WITHOUT COMMITTING ITSELF TO ANY PARTICULAR COURSE OF ACTION OR OUTCOME. INDEED MRS. B'S COMMENT IS SIGNIFICANT FOR WHAT WAS NOT SAID: NO APPEAL FOR UN ACTION, NO REFERENCE TO PALESTINIANS, NO JUDGMENT ABOUT OUTCOME OF WAR, NO ALLEGATION OF "IMPERIALIST" BACKING FOR ISRAEL, AND CAREFUL LIMITATION WORDS OF SUPPORT ONLY FOR ARAB POST-1967 CLAIMS. PUBLIC, PRESS, AND POLITICAL
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 COLOMB 02567 121205Z

PARTY REACTION TO WAR HAS BEEN EQUALLY TEMPERED. FEW INDI-

VIDUAL MP'S HAVE SPOKEN IN BEHALF OF ARABS. CABINET MINISTERS
HAVE BEEN SILENT. MUSLIM GROUPS AND SCATTERED TRADE UNIONISTS
HAVE REPRESENTED SOLE PRO-ARAB VOICES HEARD SO FAR.
VAN HOLLEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WAR, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NEUTRALISM, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973COLOMB02567
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: COLOMBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731036/aaaabakg.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Jan-2002 by willialc>; APPROVED <23-Jan-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SRI LANKA REACTION TO ME WAR
TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, CE, XF, (BANDARANAIKE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005